

COUNTRY

East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC

Kummersdorf Bombing Range

25X1

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

20 March 1953

25X1

REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. During the night of 3 December 1952, there was flying by jet aircraft over Kummersdorf. Bombs were not dropped. However, flashes of light coming from aircraft were observed over the training grounds. On 25 December 1952, between 7 and 9 p.m., there was intensive flying by jet aircraft over the Kummersdorf area. The aircraft had set position lights and emitted light flashes while flying over the target range. [redacted] these light flashes were in connection with aerial photography conducted by the aircraft. 25X1
2. [redacted] the farmers were not able to tend their fields, because all approach roads were blocked. 25X1 Dummies were set up at the training ground which was used exclusively as bombing range. Bombs had repeatedly exploded in the vicinity of Sperenberg. 25X1
3. Between 8:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. on 31 January, twin-engine jet aircraft dropped bombs over the Kummersdorf target range. The first two aircraft dropped their bombs from an altitude of 1,800 to 2,000 meters, later, bombs were dropped from an altitude of 800 meters. Wrecked aircraft and tanks served as targets, whereas the dummy village at the target range was not attacked. A biplane circled over the field during the bombing practice. Between 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., on 7 February, jet bombers approached the target range at intervals of 30 minutes, each bomber dropping one bomb on Jagen 132a (forest subsection). There was a slight overcast. On Sunday, 8 February 1953, alarm was given at 7:30 a.m. and bombs were dropped. Between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. on 9 February, bombing practices were observed. On 10 February, about 80 Soviet soldiers reconditioned the dummies at the target range.
4. Between 9 and 10 a.m. on 21 February, at hazy weather and poor visibility, jet bombers individually dropped bombs. 25X1

Comment. Kummersdorf bombing range is probably being used by the regiments of the southern bomber division and by the GA aircraft stationed in Jueterbog Altes Lager airfield. It cannot be determined whether the bright flashes are in connection with the bombing range. It is possible that these flashes are originated during the night flying of the reconnaissance regiment which is stationed at Jueterbog Altes Lager and is equipped with IL-28 aircraft. There were no changes in bombing practices.

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW